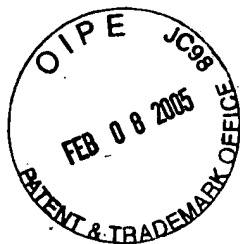


IFW



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q78001

Takeya SAKAI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/686,672

Group Art Unit: 2871

Confirmation No.: 8267

Examiner: Thanh Nhan P. Nguyen

Filed: October 17, 2003

For: RETARDATION FILM AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated January 11, 2005, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Group I including claims 1 and 3. However, this election is with traverse. More specifically, since claims 2, 4 and 5 depend from claims 1 and 3, Applicants submit that the inventions are not patentably distinct from each other. Furthermore, the Restriction Requirement is improper because upon allowability of claims 1 and 3, claims 2, 4 and 5 would likewise be allowable.

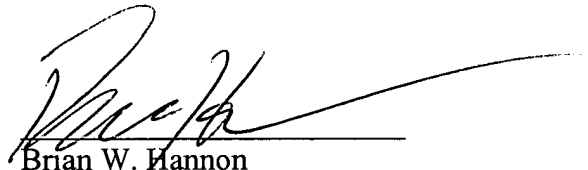
In view of the foregoing, Applicants request the Examiner to examine all of the claims pending in the application.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Response to Restriction Requirement
Serial No. 10/686,672
Sughrue Ref: Q78001

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian W. Hannon', is written over a horizontal line.

Brian W. Hannon
Registration No. 32,778

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 8, 2005